**Town of Westborough Recreation Department**

**Recreation Commission**

**Date:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 **Location:** Memorial Hall, Town Hall, 34 West Main St. Westborough, MA 01581

**Convened:** 6:39 p.m. **Adjourned:** 7:12 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Chair Bethany Travis, Jennifer Kirkland, Bill Clausen, Brian Kane, Katie Welch, and Grethel Guzman-Ruck.

**Others Present:**

**Committee Members Absent:** Matt Griffith, Colleen Dowd, Mike Wilsker, and Josh Aponte.

**Youth Commission || Discussion on Youth Open Forum Developments**

We will start to have a standing agenda item for highschoolers to discuss ideas and topics. We will have a topic each month for discussion but the discussion will not be limited to that topic. If we have to cancel a meeting, we will make sure to reach out to students to let them know. We may start with a 15-minute time limit in the beginning and increase the time as we move along.

**Recreation: Updates to Include Fall Programs, Golf Course || \*\*Jennifer Kirkland**

The ski program will begin next Tuesday. The other Youth Basketball grades that have not started yet, will begin this weekend. We hired a gym supervisor for Youth Basketball this year because we need a neutral set of eyes at the games when we are not there. This is in response to the bad sportsmanship and negative behaviors from students and parents last year. Bill brought up the Positive Coaching Alliance which is a program for coaches and teams and it may help in situations like these. Colleen Dowd was not present at this meeting so this item will be placed on the following agenda for discussion. Colleen Dowd was interested and was looking into the Positive Coaching Alliance for Little League as well.

The Parks Leadsman position has been posted. Jennifer will be meeting with Chris Payant, the Director of the Department of Public Works, to review applicants for the position and then eventually interview them.

Matt Griffith, our Golf Pro, is creating a section of the golf website that would allow for online payments through the Golf Now system. There is work also that is being done on the seventh tee to make it bigger and to make the grass grow fuller. Membership rates are available for the 2024 season.

The RFP has been awarded to Mike Hightower for three years with a two one-year renewal option.

**Community Center Updates || \*\* Jennifer Kirkland**

We are still working through negotiations to purchase the building.

**Approve Minutes: December 5, 2023 || VOTE**

Bill made the motion to approve the minutes from December 5, 2023. Brian seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous 4-0-0 and the motion carried. The minutes from December 5, 2023 were approved.

**Next Meeting: Memorial Hall, February 6, 2024**

Brian made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Katie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous 4-0-0 and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Rec. Commission approved these minutes on Tuesday, February 6, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Grethel Guzman-Ruck